Conditions and stages of Jahannam

This publication is divided into two parts. One examines the conditions in Jahannam and the other examines the dwellers of Jahannam.

Depth of the pits of Jahannam

Hadhrat Abu Musa Ash'ari (Radhiallaahu-anhu) narrates that Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wasallam) said (while describing the depth of Jahannam):

"If a rock is dropped into Jahannam, it will remain plummeting for 70 years before touching the pith of Jahannam".

Hadhrat Abu Hurrairah (Radhiallaahu-anhu) states :

"Once while we were sitting in the company of Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wasallam) we heard the sound of a dropping object. Then Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wasallam) asked:
"Do you know what sound it is ?"
"Allaah and His Rasul know best ". We replied.
"This is a stone which was dropped by Allaah from the mouth of Jahannam, and it has landed on the bottom after 70 years of continuous falling ; this was the sound of the falling of the same stone." [Muslim]

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Walls of Jahannam

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wasallam)stated :
"Four walls surround Jahannam. The width of each wall is a walking distance of 40 years ".

Gates of Jahannam

The Noble Qur'aan describes the gates of Jahannam in these words:

"And verily, Jahannam is the promised place for them all! Entering into it are seven gates; for each of these gates are assigned (special) class (of sinners) ."

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wasallam) himself explained :

"Jahannam has seven gates; one of them is for the one who unsheathes a sword against my Ummah." [Mishkat]

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Fire and Darkness of Jahannam

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) narrated :

"Jahannam was heated for a thousand years and its fire turned red; It was then heated for another thousand years and it became white; it was again heated for another thousand years and it turned black. At present, Jahannam is pitch black and dark."[Tirmidhi]

Bukhari and Muslim report that Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

"The fire in which one will burn is the 70th part of the Fire of Jahannum.'

Degrees of Torment in Jahannam

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

> *"Among the men of Jahannam, the least punishment given will be that both his shoes and laces will be made of fire, which will make his head boil like a cauldron such, that he will think that he is receiving the most severe punishment, although his punishment is the least."*

Muslim reports Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

> *"On the Day of Resurrection, a dweller of Jahannam who indulged excessively in lust. , will be gripped and dipped into Jahannam and then asked:*
> *"O son of Adam, have you ever enjoyed the comforts of life?" . He will reply:-*
> *"Never by Allaah, I have never enjoyed the comforts of life." .*
> *"Again, on the Day of Resurrection, a Jannati , who was surrounded with troubles in the world , will be put into Jannat and then asked:*
> *"O son of Adam, have you ever experienced any trouble?"*
> *He will reply:- "By Allaah, I have never faced any trouble,"*

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Breath of Jahannam

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

> *"When the heat is intense , Zuhr (Midday) salaat should be delayed a little, because the intensity of heat is due to the heat of Jahannam*."

He further stated :

> *"Once Jahannam complained to Allaah Ta'aala against the increasing heat because one portion was eating into another. Then the Rabb of the Worlds allowed it to have two breaths C one during summer and another during winter. Therefore the heat you feel is the effect of the heave of Jahannam (with it the breath is taken out) and similarly, the rigid cold you experience is the effect of the breath (taken in).* [Bukhari]

According to a tradition , Jahannam is kindled every day at noon.

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Fuel of Jahannam

The Noble Qur'aan says:

> *"O Muslims ! Save yourselves and your families from the Fire whose fuel is men and stones."* [Qur'aan 66:6]

What are these stones ? Hadhrat Ibn Mas'ud (Radhiallaahu-anhu) explained ;

> *"Stones which are the fuel of Jahannam are made of sulphur (brimstone) which Allaah Ta'aala created in the nearest heaven on the day heaven and earth were created."*

Besides these brimstones, those idols which the polytheists worshipped will also be present in Jahannam.
The Noble Qur'aan says:

"Verily you, (Unbelievers) and the (false) gods that you worship besides Allaah, are (but) fuel for Jahannam! To it will you (surely) come!" [Qur'aan 21: 98]

Layers of Jahannam

It has already been mentioned that Jahannam has seven gates.
Hadhrat Ali (Radhiallaahu-anhu) has said that the gates of Jahannam are one upon each other . This denotes that Jahannam has layers.

According to Allama Ibn Kathir (RA), Jahannam has seven gates.

The Noble Qur'aan says:

"The Hypocrites will be in the lowest depths of the Fire."[Qur'aan 4:145]

Muslim Scholars name each layer with its details. According to them they are :

1. **Hawia:** This is for the hypocrite, Pharaoh and his associates.
2. **Jahim:** This is above *Hawia* which is for the polytheists.
3. **Saqar:** This is above Jahim which is for the *Saibeen,* a sect having no religion.
4. **Nati:** This if the forth which lies above *Saqar* . It is for *Iblis* and his associates.
5. **Hatma:** This is the fifth which lies above *Nati* .It is for the Jews.
6. **Sa'ah:** This is for the Christians.
7. **Jahannam:** This is the seventh and the uppermost which is meant for general Muslim sinners.

The Neck of Jahannam

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) stated :

"On the Day of Resurrection, a neck will come out from Jahannam, having two eyes, two ears and one tongue to see, hear and speak. It will say that it has been designated for three types of persons:

a. On every rebellious and stubborn one;
b. On everyone who made an associate with Allaah; and
c. On the painter of a picture. [Tirmidhi]

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Pillars of Fire

The Nobel Qur'aan says:

"(It is) the Fire of Allaah kindled (to a blaze), that which climb (straight) into the Hearts; It shall be made a vault over them, in columns outstretched."

When a fire burns a person ,he dies before it reaches the heart. But since there is no death in Jahannam, the Fire will rise up to the heart, enclosing the entire body. "Pillars of Fire" refers to the high flames of Fire in which the dwellers of Jahannam will be encompassed . [Bayan al-Qur'aan]

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Number of Angels appointed over Jahannam

The Noble Qur'aan indicates their number as 19:

"Over it are Nineteen". [Qur'aan 74:30]

They have been commissioned to carry out various duties assigned to them by Allaah.

The Noble Qur'aan says about Jahannam:

"........... Over which are (appointed angels stern (and) severe, who flinch not (from Executing) the Command they receive from Allaah, but do (precisely) what they are commanded." [Qur'aan 66:5]

Anger of Jahannam

The Noble Qur'aan says:

"For those who reject their Rabb (and Cherisher) is the Chastisement of Jahannam; and evil is (such) a destination. When they are cast therein, they will hear the (terrible) drawing in of breath even as it blazes , almost bursting with fury." [Qur'aan 67: 6-7-8]

AND.....

"When it sees them from a place far off, they will hear its fury and its raging sigh. And when they are cast bound together, into a constricted place therein, they will plead for destruction there and then!" [Qur'aan 25: 12-13]

Ibne Abi Hatim reports that Rasulullah (Sallallaahu alayhi wasallam), after reciting *"Idha ra'at hum"* proved that there are two eyes of Jahannam.

The Noble Qur'aan says:

"Inviting (all) such that turn their backs and turn away their faces (from the Right), and collect (wealth) and hide it (from use)!" [Qur'aan 70: 17-18]

It is recorded in Ibne Khatir that Jahannam will pick out evil doers from the Resurrection surface just as animals pick up food grains. The above *ayah* refers to those who are in the habit of hoarding wealth.

Hadhrat Qatadah (Radhiallaahu-anhu) writes in his commentary of this *ayah.*

"One who fails to make any difference between permitted and prohibited and does not spend inspite of the clear order from Allaah is most unfortunate."

Hadhrat Abdullaah bin Hakim (RA) never zipped the opening of his purse for fear of this *ayah.*

"O Son of Adam! you hear the truth and disapproval of Allaah and still go on hoarding wealth and property."

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

"On the day of Resurrection men will be brought like children (in a state of disgrace) to Allaah, the Almighty who will ask him:

"Did I not give you wealth and property, cattle and slaves and other favours? How did you thank Me ? "

Thereupon they would say:

"My Rabb ! I collected wealth and property, multiplied it abundantly and left behind more than I had. Thus let me bring all that."

In short, that person had sent nothing ahead in the form of virtues. Hence he will be hurled into Jahannam. [Tirmidhi]

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

"His house is the world who has no house; his wealth who has not wealth; and who collected the world who has no wisdom at all." [Mishkat]

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Reins of Jahannam and Angels Pulling them.

Hadhrat Ibn Mas'ud (Radhiallaahu-anhu) reported that Rasulullah (Sallallaahu alayhi wasallam) said:

"That Day, Jahannam will be hauled by 70 thousand angels ,appointed to each 70 thousand reins." [Muslim}

Hafiz Abdul Aziz Mundhari (RA) writes in his ' Al-Targheeb wal-Tarhib' from Hadhrat Ibn Abbas (Radhiallaahu-anhu):

" If the angels release the reins of Jahannam, it will hold all the good and bad elements in its grip."

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Snakes and Scorpions of Jahannam

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

"Verily, there are long-necked camel-like snakes in Jahannam. If anyone of these smites a Jahanami , he will feel pain for 40 years."

He then added:

"Verily, there are donkey size scorpions in Jahannam. If anyone of these stings a Jahanami , he will feel pain for 40 years." [Ahmad]

The Noble Qur'aan says:

"For them will We add Chastisement upon Chastisement because they spread mischief." [Qur'aan 16:88]

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No Death in Jahannam

The Nobel Qur'aan says:

"No way will the (punishment) be lightened for them, and in despair will they be there overwhelmed."

[Qur'aan 43:75]

AND....

"No term shall be determined for them, so they should die, or shall its Chastisement be lightened for them."

Meaning that none will die due to the torments of Jahannam but they will remain alive despite the endless punishments.

According to a Hadith, when the dwellers of Jannat will go to Jannat and the Jahannamis to Jahannam, death will be brought in the shape of a ram. Thereafter a proclaimer will proclaim:

"O Jannatis, now there will be no death; O Jahannamis now there will be no death; On hearing this call , the Jannatis will be delighted and the Jahanamis will become more depressed."

Call of Jahannam

The Noble Qur'aan says:

The Day We will ask Jahannam: "Are you full?' It will say: "Are there any more (to come?)'[Qur'aan 50:30]

According to the Hadith, Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

"Jahanamis will continually be flung into Jahannam and despite being filled to the brim, it will demand more. In the end, Allaah Ta'aala will put His leg into it and it will get satisfied." [Mishkat]

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No Salvation from Punishment In spite of being Patient.

It is a pattern of worldly life that one receives comfort after enduring patience but as for the torment of Jahannam.

> *"Burn you therein: The same is it to you whether you bear it with patience, or not; yet but receive the recompense of your (own) actions ."* Qur'aan 52:16

Thorns of Fire as Food and Drink for Jahannamis.

The Noble Qur'aan says:

> *Then while they are given, to drink, of a boiling hot spring, no food will there be for them but a bitter Dharri which will neither nourish nor satisfy hunger."* [Qur'aan 99: 5-6-7]

Dharri is a thorny tree which is so poisonous that even animals stay away from it. If they eat it, they die immediately.

Foul Pus

The Noble Qur'aan says:

> *"So no friend have you here this day. Nor have you any food except the foul pus from the washing of wounds. which none do eat but those in sin."* [Qur'aan 35: 36-37]

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Zaqqum

The Noble Qur'aan says:

> *"Verily the Tree of Zaqqum will be the food of the sinful, ⊂ like molten brass, it will boil in their insides, like the boiling of scalding water."* [Qur'aan 44: 43-44-45]

AND...

> *" As for you sinners who deny the truth ; you will surely taste of the Tree of Zaqqum. Then will you fill your insides therewith, and drink boiling water on top of it. Indeed you shall drink like diseased camels raging with thirst! Such will be their fate on the Day of Requital!"*

AND FURTHER...

> *"For it is a tree that springs out of the bottom of Jahannam-Fire shoots of its fruit-stalks like the heads of devils."* [Qur'aan 3

Zaqqum is a famous tree which is dreadfully bitter, and the bitterness of the tree of Jahannam is beyond comparison. A horrible odour will emanate when they eat from that tree and on top of that they will drink boiling water like thirsty camels.

The Blessed Rasulullah (Sallallaahu alayhi wasallam) said:

> *"If a bucket of Ghassaq is dropped into the world, the people of the entire world would rot."* [Tirmidhi, Hakim]

What is Ghassaq? Scholars have explained :

1. It is the foul pus of the Jahannamis.
2. It is the tears of the Jahannamis.
3. It means the punishment of biting cold.
4. Rotten and cold pus which cannot be drunk due to severe coldness.

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Melted Brass

The Noble Qur'aan says:

> *"If they implore relief they will be granted water like melted brass, but this will scale their faces, how dreadful the drink!   How uncomfortable a couch to recline on!"*

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Boiling Stinking Water

The Noble Qur'aan Says:

> "He is given for drink, boiling water, in gulps will he sip it, but never will he swallow it down his throat; death will come to him for every quarter, yet he will not die."

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Boiling Water

The Noble Qur'aan says:

> *".... they shall dwell forever in the Fire, and given to drink, boiling water so that it cuts up their bowels (to pieces)."*

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Food that Throttles

The Noble Qur'aan says:

> *"With us are Fetters (to bind them), and a Fire (to burn them). And a food that throttles , and a Chastisement Grievous."* [Qur'aan 73: 12-13]

Hadhrat Abu Darda (Radhiallaahu-anhu) reports that Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

> *"The dwellers of Jahannam will experience such intense hunger, that this alone be equal to the terrible torment which will be rendered . Then they will seek for food and they will be given food that will stick to the throat (i.e. it will neither go in nor come out.)"* [Mishkat]

Different Ways of Punishment

The Fire of Jahannam with its scorching heat, snakes, scorpions, pugnacious food and drink, darkness, etc. are the punishment for the dwellers therein, The Qur'aan and Hadith explain many other chastisement. A few are given below.

Boiling Water Poured over Heads

The Noble Qur'aan says:

> *'Over their heads will be poured boiling water. With it will be melted what is within their bodies. As well as (their) skins."* [Qur'aan 22: 19-20]

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

"Verily boiling water will be poured over the heads of Jahannamis ,which will cut everything in their stomachs, then it will be restored to the original state, and this procedure will continue." [Tirmidhi, Baihaqi]

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Rods of Iron

The Noble Qur'aan says:

"In addition there will be rods of Iron (to punish) them. Every time they wish to get away therefrom, due to anguish, they will be forced back therein, and (it will be said). "Taste you the Chastisement of Burning!"

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

"If the rod of iron is placed on the ground, all men and jinn put together will not lift it." [Ahmad]

Fresh Skins

The Noble Qur'aan says:

"Those who reject Our Signs. We shall soon hurl into the Fire:. As often as their skins are roasted through, We shall replace these for fresh skins, that they may taste the Chastisement:, for Allaah is Exalted in Power, Wise."

Hadhrat Hasan Basri (R.A.) said:

"The Fire will burn the Jahannmis 70 thousand times every day. And each time the Fire burns them, it will be said: "Be as you were before , and they will become so."

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Chastisement for Concealing Knowledge

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) stated :

"Anyone who conceals when asked whilst HAVING knowledge, will have a bridle of Fire in his mouth."

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Chastisement for Drinking Wine or Anything Intoxicating

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

"My Exalted Rabb has sworn by His Honour that whoever among His servants drinks even a gulp of wine will be given pus to drink in the same quantity; and whoever abandons it for His fear will be made to drink from clean and pure containers " [Ahmad]

Muslim reports that Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

"Allaah has made a vow that anyone who drinks any intoxicating thing will be made to drink "tinatul khabul " on the Day of Resurrection. "The Companions (Radhiallaahu-anhu) submitted"
"What is "tinatul khabul"?"

He explained:

"It is the sweat of the Jahannamis." [Mishkat]

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Preaching Without Practice

Rasululaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

> *"On the night of Ascension I saw some people whose lips were going to be cut with the scissors of Fire. I asked: "O Jabraeel ,who are they?"*
> *"These are those preachers of your Ummah who called for righteous deeds and forgot about themselves; they read and recited the Book of Allaah but did not put it into practice."* [Mishkat]

Bukhari and Muslim reports, Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

> *"On the Day of Qiyaamat, a person will be brought and hurled into Jahannam. His intestines will come out immediately and he will start revolving like the ass with the grinding stone. Having seen this, the men of Jahannam will centre around him and ask:*
> *"What happened to you? You asked us to do good and avoid evil?"*
> *"Yes, of course! I asked you to do good and avoid evil but did not do so myself."*

Punishment for Using Utensils of Gold and Sliver

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) stated:

"One who eats and drinks in the utensils of gold and silver or the utensils having something of these metals will have his stomach filled with the Fire of Jahannam" Darqutni

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Punishment for picture makers

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

> *The picture makers will be given the severest punishment."* [Bukhari, Muslim]

He is reported to have said further:

> *"Every picture maker will be in Jahannam; his pictures will be changed into a living figure who will then give punishment to him."* [Bukhari, Muslim]

Hadhrat Ibn Abbas (Radhiallaahu-anhu) expressing his opinion about the above Hadith:

> *"If it is essential for you to make a picture, let trees and soulless objects be your subjects."* [Mishkat]

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Punishment for Suicide

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

> *"One who commits suicide by falling from a mountain will be in Jahannam, and will keep on ascending an descending. One who dies by taking poison will have his poison in his hand and will be taking it in Jahannam; and the person who kills himself with an object of iron, will repeatedly pierce his stomach with an iron object in the fire of Jahannam."* [Bukhari]

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Punishment for Arrogants

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

"The arrogants will be raised in the forms of ants, having the body of ants and faces of humans. They will be driven towards the jail of Jahannam very disgracefully." [Mishkat]

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Punishment for Boasting Devouts

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) is reported to have said:

"Seek refuge with Allaah from the well of sorrows." "What is this well of sorrows?" The Companions asked
He explained:
"There is a ditch in Jahannam which is such that Jahannam itself seeks refuge from it 400 times a day."
"The devouts who repeatly boast their virtues deeds will be there ." [Mishkat]
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Mountain of Fire

The Noble Qur'aan says:
"Soon will I visit him with a mount of calamities!"

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

"Su'ad is a mount of Fire upon which Jahannami will be made to ascend for 70 years and the same time one will take in falling from the that place and this procedure will continue." [Tirmidhi]

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Very Long Chain

The Noble Qur'aan says:

(The stern command will say): "Seize him, and bind him, and burn him in the Blazing Fire. Further, insert him in a chain, whereof the length is seventy cubits!"

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

"If a piece of metal is dropped from the sky to earth, it will touch the ground before nightfall, which is the duration of 500 years of journey. If it is released from one side of the chain of Jahannam, it will reach another side after a fall of 40 years."

The Noble Qur'aan says:

"For the Rejectors we have prepared chains, Yokes, and a Blazing Fire." [Qur'aan 76:4]

The Noble Qur'aan says;
"But soon shall they know, when the yokes (shall be) round their necks, and the chains; they shall be dragged along, in the boiling stinging fluid; then in the Fire shall they be burned." Qur'aan 14:50

Garments of Pitch

The Noble Qur'aan says:

"Their garments of pitch, and their faces covered with Fire." [Qur'aan 14:50]

According to Hadhrat Ibn Abbas (Radhiallaahu-anhu) 'qateran' is melted brass. Jahannamis will be made to wear this dress which is extremely hot. [Ibn Kathir]

Muslim reports Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) saying

> *"The woman who cries at the dead and does not repent before her death, will be raised in a state that the garments of pitch will be given to her to wear."*

The Noble Qur'aan says:

> *"But those who deny (their Rabb), for them will be cut out garments of Fire."* [Qur'aan 22:19]

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Tauntings of the Inspectors of Jahannam

Besides many physical tortures of Chastisement, Jahannamis will have to endure a further torment, and that is the tauntings and chiding of the Inspectors of Jahannam.

The Noble Qur'aan says:

> *Taste you the chastisement of the Fire, that which you rejected as false."* [Qur'aan 32:20]

Hadhrat Zayd bin Aslam (Radhiallaahu-anhu) reports:

> *"Once Hadhrat Umar (Radhiallaahu-anhu) asked for water. He was given water mixed with honey. But he refused to drink it saying: 'Although it is tasteful but I will not take it because I have read in the Noble Qur'aan that Allaah Ta'aala condemns those who run after one's desire in this world and he will be told that he had enjoyed comforts of life in the world; I fear of the same consequences."*

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States and Conditions of Jahannam

Majority of Women in Jahannam

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

> *"I glanced at Jannat and found majority of poor people; I looked into Jahannam and found majority of women."*

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Hadhrat Abu Saeed Khudri (Radhiallaahu-anhu) reports:

> *"Once Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) was going for Eid Salaat and he passed by some women in the way of the Salaat ground and remarked:*
>
> *"O women! give charity, for I have seen women most in Jahannam."*
> *"Why?" the women submitted.*
> *"It is because you curse and show ungratefulness to your husband ."* [Bukhari, Muslim]

Ugliness of the dwellers of Jahannam.

The Noble Qur'aan says:

> *"But those who have earned evil will have a reward of the like evil; disgrace will cover their (faces); no defender will they have from (the anger of) Allaah; their faces will be covered, as it were, with pieces from the depths of the darkness of night."* [Qur'aan 10:27]

This ayah denotes clearly that the faces of Jahannamis will be extremely black.

Hadhrat Abdullah Umar (Radhiallaahu-anhu) said:

> *"If any Jahannami is driven out to the world, all the worldly people will die of his horrific face and repulsive stink. Having said so, Hadhrat Abdullah (Radhiallaahu-anhu) wept distressly."*

The Noble Qur'aan says:

> *"The Fire will burn their faces, and they will grin therein , with their lips displaced."*

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Tears of Jahannamis

Hadhrat Anas (Radhiallaahu-anhu) reports that Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) narrated to his Companions (Radhiallaahu-anhum):

> *"O people! Weep or at least appear to be weeping, for Jahannamis will weep in Jahannam so much that gutters of tears will flow from their faces; when tears will dry up, blood will commence flowing causing sores in the eyes."* [Sharh Sunnah]

Tongues of the Jahannamis.

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

> *"Verily the tongue of the Unbelievers will be pulled out up to one or two 'fersakh'*[1] *(three miles)and the people will walk over it."*

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Bodies of Jahannamis.

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

> *"The distance between two shoulders of an Unbeliever will be so wide that it will take three days if a mount covers it rapidly; his jaw-tooth will be equal to Mount Uhad, and the thickness of his skin will be equal to the passage of three days."* [Muslim]

Tirmidhi reports from Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) :

> *"On the day of Qiyaamat the jaw-tooth of the Unbeliever would be equal to Mount Uhad; his thigh would be equal to Mount Baida; and his sitting place would be long and wide as the distance between Madinah and Radha village."* [Mishkat]

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[1] One 'fersakh' is equal to three miles

Falling into Jahannam While Passing through Pulsiraat[2]

The Noble Qur'aan says:

> *"Not one of you but will pass over it; this is, with your Rabb , a Degree which must be accomplished."*

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

> *"Pulsiraat will be on the back of Jahannam. And among the Ambiyaa, I shall be the first to pass over it with my Ummah. That day only the Ambiyaa will speak and the words will be: "Allaahumma sal'lim sal'lim.""*

Thereafter he stated :

> *" Pulsiraat has crocked nails like those of thorns. On the Day of Resurrection they will try to drag the wrongdoers towards Jahannam resulting in some of them falling into Jahannam. Some of them will never emerge while others will come out after being punished."*
>
> *According to some other traditions some of them will pass over in the twinkling of an eye; while others will pass over with lightening speed, some with the speed of fast running horses and camels; some of them will pass over peacefully, some after being injured, while some of them will be pushed into Jahannam upside down*

The Noble Qur'aan says:

> *"But we shall save those who guarded against evil, and we shall leave the wrong-doers therein, (humbled) to their knees."* [Qur'aan 19:72]

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Nature of Entrance

The ayats of the Noble Qur'aan describe how the Jahanamis will enter Jahannam.

> *"And We shall drive the sinner into Jahannam, (like thirsty cattle driven to water).'* [Qur'aan 19:86]
>
> *'Then they will be flung headlong into the (Fire), they and those straying in evil, and the whole hosts of Iblis together."* [Qur'aan 26:94-95]

Hadhrat Ibn Abbas (Radhiallaahu-anhu) explains the above :

> *"Hands and legs of the sinners will be broken into pieces and they will be cast into Jahannam."*

The Noble Qur'aan says:

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[2] The bridge over which the righteous will pass into paradise.

"Bring you up" It shall be said. to the wrong-doers and their wives, and the things they worshipped besides Allaah,///////// "and lead them to the way to the (Fierce) Fire! But stop them. For they must be asked: "What is the matter with you that you help not each other?" Nay, but that they shall submit (to judgement). [Qur'aan 37:22-26]

Shaytaan And the Jahannamis.

On one hand the Jahannamis will be repenting for following Shaytaan. On the other hand, the Shaytaan will be condemning them.

The Noble Qur'aan says:

"And Shaytaan will say when the matter is decided: 'It was Allaah Who gave you a promise of Truth: I too promised, but I failed in my promise to you. I had no authority over you except to call you, but you listened to me, then reproach not me, but reproach your own souls. I cannot listen to your cries, nor can you listen to mine. I reject your former act in associating me with Allaah. For wrong-doers there must be grievous Chastisement."

The Jahanami will indeed suffer immensely when Shaytaan absolves himself of all aid to the evil-doers. One can just imagine the anger and anguish of the Jahanami.

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Anger of Jahannamis.

Jahannamis will become very angry against their misguides and they will say :

"For us, we but followed you; can you then avail us at all against the Wrath of Allaah?" [Qur'aan 14:21]

They will reply:

"If we had received the guidance of Allaah, we should have given it to you; to us it makes no difference (now) whether we rage, or bear (these) torments with patience: for ourselves there is no way of escape." [Qur'aan 14:21]

Following their wrath against the misguides , they will submit to Allaah Ta'aala.

"Our Rabb ! Show us those, among jinn and men, who misled us: we shall crush them beneath our feet, so that they become the vilest." [Qur'aan 41:29]

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Argument with the Inspectors of Jahannam

The Jahannamis will start arguing and entreating the inspectors of Jahannam.

"Pray to your Rabb to lighten on us the Chastisement for a day (at least)." [Qur'aan 40:49]

"Did there not come to your messengers with clear signs?" [Qur'aan 40:50]

Thereupon the Jahannamis will reply "Bala", i.e. yes, they did come but we did not listen to what they said to us. Thereupon the angels will reply:

"Then pray (as you like): But the Prayer of those without Faith is nothing but (futile wondering) in (mazes of)

error." [Qur'aan 40:50]
Thereafter they will submit to the master of Jahannam.

"O Malik! would that your Rabb put an end to us!" He will say: "Nay, but you shall abide." [Qur'aan 43:77]

At last they will pray to Allaah Ta'aala for none is more Exalted then He:

"They will say: "Our Rabb ! Our misfortune overwhelmed us, and we became a people astray! Our Rabb ! Bring us out of this: if ever we return (to evil) then shall we be wrong-doers indeed!" [Qur'aan 23: 106-107]

Hadhrat Abu Darda (Radhiallaahu-anhu) used to say:

"On this rejection of Allaah the Exalted, they will be disappointed and will start braying like asses." [Mishkat]

Ibn Kathir says that their faces will change and become disfigured to the extent that some of the Jannatis will approach to intercede but will fail to recognise the Jahanamis. Thereupon the Jahannami will say:

"I am so and so" . To this the Jannatis will reply:
"You are wrong: we recognise you not", they will say. Thereafter the gates of Jahannam will be closed."

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Screaming and Crying of the Jahannamis.
Allaah Ta'aala says:
"Those who are wretched shall be in the Fire . Therein (nothing but) the heaving of sighs and sobs." [Qur'aan 11:106]

Ransom for Salvation from Chastisement of Jahannam

"Even if the wrong-doers had all that there is on earth, and as much more, (in vain) would they offer it for ransom for the pain of the Chastisement on the Judgement."

Sura Ma'arij denotes that on that Day every sinner will express his desire to get rid of this Chastisement even after offering his sons, wife, brother and his entire family. But there will neither be any wealth and property to be offered in return for wrong deeds; even if these things are there nothing from these will be accepted.

The Noble Qur'aan says:

"As to those who reject Faith, if they had everything on earth, and twice repeated, to give as ransom for the Chastisement of the Day of Qiyaamat, it would never be accepted from them. Theirs would be a grievous Chastisement." [Qur'aan 5:36]

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Laughter of the Jannatis.

"But on this Day the Believers will laugh at the Unbelievers: On raised couches they will command (a sight) of all things." [Qur'aan 83:35]

Hadhrat Qatada (Radhiallaahu-anhu) is reported to have said that Jannatis will see the state of the Jahannamis through windows and will laugh at them out of revenge as they used to laugh at the Believers in the world.
They would laugh at them by winking at one another and talk about them in jest.

The Noble Qur'aan says:

"Those in sin used to laugh at those who believed."

It is mentioned in Sura Mumunun that Allaah, the Exalted will say addressing the Jahannami:

"A group of Believers would say: O our Rabb ! we believed and hence forgive us and send Your mercy on us and You are the greatest of all the mercifuls", "But you laughed at them and kept yourselves away from remembering Me. I have, today given you the return of patience."

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Anxiousness and Trust

The events regarding Jahannam and the Jahannamis which you have read up till now was not meant to merely think about for a while and then to be forgotten.
In fact all the events and incidents related thus far must be read through again and again to change the wrong actions in our lives. This can only be done by seriously pondering over it and by taking some action as well. The basic fact is strengthening Faith in Allaah Ta'aala and His Rasul and taking account of one's deeds and evil -actions ".
The Believers regularly take stock of their lives and seek mercy, forgiveness and salvation from the Fire of Jahannam. How can a person who is aware of all these sad and depressing plights keep himself engaged in hankering behind comforts and luxuries of life?

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

'Jahannam has been concealed by pleasure, while Jannat by unpleasant things." [Bukhari, Muslim]

Those indulged in the pleasure of life are engaged in those actions which lead to Jahannam while the unpleasant tasks lead to Jannat. And for those who think that they will get rid of the sorrows and sufferings of life by committing suicide, they should start associating with people who are in a worse plight than themselves. Indeed self pity is the root of many evils and opens the doors for Shaytaan through depression and ungratefulness.

In fact, if the Fire of Jahannam, its snakes, scorpions, garments of Flames, modes of Chastisement, food of Jahannam, etc.,are kept constantly in focus by the people, then the temporary comforts of this world ,after which people kill steal and sell their characters, will be put into perspective and the value of the Aakhirat will increase in their souls and hearts.

Can anyone who has knowledge about the hunger in Jahannam abandon Saums (fasts)? Can anyone fail to offer Salaat (prayer) who knows about the punishment in Jahannam? Can anyone paint a picture who knows about the consequences of doing it? Can anyone consume wine who is aware of the punishment of drinking in Jahannam? No, no at all.

Truly speaking, we pay only lip service to the consequences of Jannat and Jahannam. What is required of us is the total Faith and Trust in their existence.

Hadhrat Ali (Radhiallaahu-anhu) said:

'If Jannat and Jahannam are placed in front of me , these will increase nothing to my Faith and Trust. Meaning , my Faith in the Unseen is so strong that I do not rely on even the vision of my healthy eyes in comparison to it." [Ahmad]

The Noble Rasul (Sallallaahu alayhi wasallam) once asked Hadhrat Jibraeel (Alaihis-Salaam):

"What is the reason that I have never seen Mikail (Michael)."
" Since the day Jahannam was created, Mikail never laughed." He submitted."
Muslim reports that Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

"By One in Whose possession lies my life, had you witnessed that scene that I have viewed, you would weep more and laugh less! The companions (Radhiallaahu-anhu) submitted"
"What have you seen?
"I have seen Jannat and Jahannam." [Targhib]

Hadhrat Ibn Masud (Radhiallaahu-anhu) says:
"I am astonished that people laugh although they are not sure of being safe from Jahannam."

Hadhrat Abu Saeed Khudri (Radhiallaahu-anhu) reports:
"Once Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) came out and saw the people laughing heartily. Thereupon he remarked:
"Had you remembered that which removes the pleasures of life (i.e. death), you would have found no time for doing what I see." [Mishkat]

In short, it is wise to make efforts to improve our Aakhirat -Hereafter, because when surrounded by it's torments it is futile to repent and entreat as clearly warned in the Qur'aan.:

"Ah! would that (death) had made an end to me! Of no profit to me has been my wealth! My power has perished from me!" [Qur'aan 69: 27-29]

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:

"Seek Jannat as far as possible and keep away from Jahannam as far as possible, for the seeker of Jannat and the one fleeing from Jahannam cannot have (careless) sleep." [Al-Targhib wal-Targhib]

Hadhrat Yahya bin Maudh (Radhiallaahu-anhu) said:

"If a man fears Jahannam as much as he fears poverty, he is sure to go straight to Jannat."

When Hadhrat Muhammad bin al Munkhadir(RA) wept, he rubbed his tears on his mouth and beard. He explained that he had been informed that the Fire of Jahannam does not touch the areas which had been touched by tears.

An Ansari offered Tahajjud prayer and wept bitterly saying:
"I request you O'Allaah to look into my affairs."

Having heard this, Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) stated :
"You have made angels weep."

Hadhrat Zainul Abdin (Radhiallaahu-anhu) was once saying Salaat. In the meantime his house was set on fire. But he remained engaged in Salaat. When the people enquired :

"Were you not aware?"
"The Fire of the Aakhiraat- Hereafter kept me unaware of the fire of the world." he replied .

A person used to retire to bed to sleep but could not do so inspite of all his efforts. Thus he would rise and perform Salaat. He would then implore Allaah Ta'aala:

"O Allaah, You know it very well that the fear of the fire of Jahannam has constantly broken my sleep."
Having said so he would resume his prayer.

It is reported that Hadhrat Abu Yazid(RA) would always keep weeping. When he was asked the reason he explained:

"Had Allaah said that if you sinned you would have been made a captive in a bathroom, I would keep control over my shedding tears; how can I check my tears; when I have been frightened with the Fire of Jahannam on committing sin."
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Conclusion

"O' Allaah I seek Your refuge from the Chastisement of Jahannam; I seek Your refuge from the torment of the grave, and from the mischief of Dajjal , and from the calamities of life and death."

Hadhrat Anas (Radhiallaahu-anhu) reports:
Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) would very often invoke:

"Our Rabb ! give us good in this world and good in the Aakhiraat-Hereafter. And save us from the punishment of the Fire!" [Qur'aan 2:201]

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) informed a Companion named Muslim (Radhiallaahu-anhu):

"If you say 'Allahumma ajirni minannaar 'are' seven times after Maghrib (after sunset) Salaat before talking to anyone and die the same night, you will get salvation; similarly, if you do so after Fajr (before sunrise prayer) you will get salvation." [Abu Dawud]

Rasulullaah (Sallallaahu alayhi wassallam) said:
"Anyone who seeks Jannat three times, it invokes Allaah: 'Allahumma adkhilul-jannatah' (O' Allaah make him enter Jannat)."

Similarly, anyone who seeks refuge from Jahannam, it invokes Allaah:
"Allahumma ajirhu minannare" (O' Allaah! save him from Jahannam) . [Targhib]

Last Lines

"This is sufficient for men of comprehension; and for the negligent, even a volume is ineffective. The readers are requested to pray for mercy of Allaah upon us."

1418-1997

Concerning the GRAVE we will if Allaah wills release a Book next year.
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